

FORTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Regular Session.

SENATE.

MONDAY, February 25, 1878.

The VICE-PRESIDENT gave notice that he would not occupy the chair for several days, and asked the Senate to designate a President pro tempore.

Mr. CONKLING presented a memorial from James Gordon Bennett asking the aid of Congress in prosecuting discoveries toward the North Pole. Mr. CONKLING said Mr. Bennett has purchased the land, and would make and sell his own expeditions; but in prosecuting these discoveries he desired the aid of Congress in procuring the necessary supplies and the American flag. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Also resolutions of the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, asking the improvement of the Harlem River and Spuyten-Del Creek, so as to connect the waters of the Hudson and East Rivers. Referred to the same committee.

Mr. EATON presented a petition asking an investigation relating to the passage of the act of 1873 denaturalizing silver. Referred to the Finance Committee.

A large number of petitions and memorials, the accumulation of the mails since Thursday, relating to the tariff, remonetization, repeal of the resumption act, the alcoholic liquor traffic, amendment of the bankrupt and insolvency laws, local river and harbor improvements, &c., were introduced.

Mr. WALLACE introduced a bill to provide for carrying the mails in American steamships, and it was agreed that it had been prepared by the Export Trade Convention recently held in this city. Referred.

Mr. PLUM introduced a bill supplementing the act of 1873 relating to the Union Pacific Railroad. Referred.

Mr. MERRIMON introduced a resolution directing the Committee on the District of Columbia to inquire into the necessity for an appropriation for additional school buildings in the District. Adopted.

Mr. VOORHIES called up his resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to ascertain whether certain railroads, incorporated July 25, 30, and 27, 1866, have issued bonds in excess of the conditional land grants of Indian lands, and if so, in whose hands the bonds are and for what purpose.

An amendment, offered by Mr. DOBNEY, directing a further inquiry as to the money expended by the Indian tribes in opposing the organization of civil government over the Indian Territory, and whether such money had been taken from their school fund, and what legislation is necessary to protect such fund, and to ascertain whether a civil form of government cannot be established over the Indian Territory, and whether the lands now held in common by the Indians can be divided in severalty among the Indians, without conferring the conditional grants of land to certain railroad corporations, was agreed to by Mr. VOORHIES, the reference changed to the Committee on Territories, and the resolution, after some debate, adopted.

Mr. WINDOM, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported back the bill making an appropriation for continuing the work on the Capitol grounds, and asked its reference to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. So ordered.

Mr. BLAINE offered a resolution requesting the President, if not incompatible with the public interest, to furnish the Senate with copies of the correspondence with the government of Great Britain in relation to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At the expiration of the morning hour the Senate, under a previous resolution, proceeded to the consideration of the bill to amend the act of 1870, relating to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At 2:30 the clock of the House appeared and notified the Senate that the House had concurred in the Senate amendments to the silver bill.

The following bills were disposed of under this order:

House bill for the relief of William H. Needham, late second lieutenant, company D, Twenty-second Iowa Volunteers. Passed.

House bill for the relief of Charles W. Wood, late of company E, first battalion, Thirtieth United States Infantry. Passed.

House bill for the relief of John Polford, with an amendment. Passed.

Senate bill for the relief of the officers and privates of the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry. Passed.

Senate bill to amend section 1250, Revised Statutes, relating to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At 2:30 the clock of the House appeared and notified the Senate that the House had concurred in the Senate amendments to the silver bill.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the calendar and the following bills were passed:

House joint resolution to authorize the Secretary of War to issue certain arms to the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston, S. C., with an amendment making the State responsible for the safe keeping of the arms. Passed.

Senate bill for the relief of John Polford, with an amendment. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Malvina A. Malby. Passed.

Senate bill to further define and enlarge the powers and duties of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia in relation to domestic animals running at large. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Nancy E. McCallum. Passed.

A question incidentally came up whether, under the ANTI-SLAVERY rule, objection to a bill was limited to the time when the bill had been read and laid on the table, or whether objection was in order at any stage of the proceedings.

On the other side it was held that objection at any time would do, in the power of the man to defeat the bill at any time; and on the other, that freedom to object if debated led to doubts as to the propriety of the passage of a bill, or of its removal existing doubts, secured the consideration and passage of bills that would be done if objections could only be interposed at the threshold.

To test the question and establish a precedent, a *pro forma* point of order was made, and the question submitted to the Senate, and it was decided—yeas 27, nays 23—that an objection was in order at any stage of proceedings on the bill under this rule.

The *pro forma* objection was withdrawn, and the Senate passed.

Senate bill to amend the 104th article of the Constitution in relation to the execution of court-martial sentences. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Mrs. Esther A. George. Passed.

At four p. m., on motion of Mr. ANTHONY, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. STEPHENS, by unanimous consent, presented memorial of certain Indian delegations protesting against the transfer of the control of Indian affairs from the civil to the military authority, and also one stating objections to the bill for the election of a Delegate in Congress from the Indian Territory. Referred.

Mr. SCALLES asked leave to report a bill for the transfer of the Indian Bureau from the Interior to the War Department, and wanted a day fixed for its consideration.

Mr. HALE objected, and demanded the regular order.

The SPEAKER then proceeded to call the States for bills, &c., for reference, and the following among others were introduced and referred.

By Mr. WILLIS (N. Y.): To provide for ex-

periments with torpedoes for military and naval defense.

By Mr. MULLER: To incorporate the United States Board of Trade.

By Mr. LAPHAM: To provide for refunding certain taxes, in conformity with decisions of the United States Supreme Court.

By Mr. HARDENBERGH: Joint resolution relating to the payment of the maturing obligations of the United States.

By Mr. HENKLE: For relief of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, of Maryland.

By Mr. HUNTON: To incorporate the Washington Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital.

By Mr. WADSWELL: To amend the act of 1872, in relation to the postal money-order system.

By Mr. STURTEVANT: To authorize the issue of United States notes, and to provide for the redemption of certain United States bonds.

By Mr. SOUTHWELL: Providing for an amendment to the Constitution in relation to the count of the electoral vote.

By Mr. JONES (Ohio): To provide for the protection of public property in the Capital and other public buildings in Washington.

By Mr. KNOTT: To authorize the issue of the standard silver dollar, and to provide for the issue of certificates for bullion deposits.

By Mr. BOONE: Joint resolution providing for a board of engineers to report upon the best mode of constructing bridges across the Tennessee River, so as to prevent obstruction to navigation.

By Mr. WHITTHORNE: To amend the charter of the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company so as to reduce the number of common stock, and to enable the Postmaster-General to further protect the interests of the Postoffice Department. Also, to bill to organize the life-saving and coast-guard service.

By Mr. WHITTHORNE asked that the latter bill be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. COX (N. Y.) moved to amend by substituting the Committee on Commerce. It was agreed that the bill should be referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. PLUM introduced a bill supplementing the act of 1873 relating to the Union Pacific Railroad. Referred.

Mr. MERRIMON introduced a resolution directing the Committee on the District of Columbia to inquire into the necessity for an appropriation for additional school buildings in the District. Adopted.

Mr. VOORHIES called up his resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to ascertain whether certain railroads, incorporated July 25, 30, and 27, 1866, have issued bonds in excess of the conditional land grants of Indian lands, and if so, in whose hands the bonds are and for what purpose.

An amendment, offered by Mr. DOBNEY, directing a further inquiry as to the money expended by the Indian tribes in opposing the organization of civil government over the Indian Territory, and whether such money had been taken from their school fund, and what legislation is necessary to protect such fund, and to ascertain whether a civil form of government cannot be established over the Indian Territory, and whether the lands now held in common by the Indians can be divided in severalty among the Indians, without conferring the conditional grants of land to certain railroad corporations, was agreed to by Mr. VOORHIES, the reference changed to the Committee on Territories, and the resolution, after some debate, adopted.

Mr. WINDOM, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported back the bill making an appropriation for continuing the work on the Capitol grounds, and asked its reference to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. So ordered.

Mr. BLAINE offered a resolution requesting the President, if not incompatible with the public interest, to furnish the Senate with copies of the correspondence with the government of Great Britain in relation to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At the expiration of the morning hour the Senate, under a previous resolution, proceeded to the consideration of the bill to amend the act of 1870, relating to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At 2:30 the clock of the House appeared and notified the Senate that the House had concurred in the Senate amendments to the silver bill.

The following bills were disposed of under this order:

House bill for the relief of William H. Needham, late second lieutenant, company D, Twenty-second Iowa Volunteers. Passed.

House bill for the relief of Charles W. Wood, late of company E, first battalion, Thirtieth United States Infantry. Passed.

House bill for the relief of John Polford, with an amendment. Passed.

Senate bill for the relief of the officers and privates of the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry. Passed.

Senate bill to amend section 1250, Revised Statutes, relating to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At 2:30 the clock of the House appeared and notified the Senate that the House had concurred in the Senate amendments to the silver bill.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the calendar and the following bills were passed:

House joint resolution to authorize the Secretary of War to issue certain arms to the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston, S. C., with an amendment making the State responsible for the safe keeping of the arms. Passed.

Senate bill for the relief of John Polford, with an amendment. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Malvina A. Malby. Passed.

Senate bill to further define and enlarge the powers and duties of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia in relation to domestic animals running at large. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Nancy E. McCallum. Passed.

A question incidentally came up whether, under the ANTI-SLAVERY rule, objection to a bill was limited to the time when the bill had been read and laid on the table, or whether objection was in order at any stage of the proceedings.

On the other side it was held that objection at any time would do, in the power of the man to defeat the bill at any time; and on the other, that freedom to object if debated led to doubts as to the propriety of the passage of a bill, or of its removal existing doubts, secured the consideration and passage of bills that would be done if objections could only be interposed at the threshold.

To test the question and establish a precedent, a *pro forma* point of order was made, and the question submitted to the Senate, and it was decided—yeas 27, nays 23—that an objection was in order at any stage of proceedings on the bill under this rule.

The *pro forma* objection was withdrawn, and the Senate passed.

Senate bill to amend the 104th article of the Constitution in relation to the execution of court-martial sentences. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Mrs. Esther A. George. Passed.

At four p. m., on motion of Mr. ANTHONY, the Senate adjourned.

periments with torpedoes for military and naval defense.

By Mr. MULLER: To incorporate the United States Board of Trade.

By Mr. LAPHAM: To provide for refunding certain taxes, in conformity with decisions of the United States Supreme Court.

By Mr. HARDENBERGH: Joint resolution relating to the payment of the maturing obligations of the United States.

By Mr. HENKLE: For relief of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, of Maryland.

By Mr. HUNTON: To incorporate the Washington Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital.

By Mr. WADSWELL: To amend the act of 1872, in relation to the postal money-order system.

By Mr. STURTEVANT: To authorize the issue of United States notes, and to provide for the redemption of certain United States bonds.

By Mr. SOUTHWELL: Providing for an amendment to the Constitution in relation to the count of the electoral vote.

By Mr. JONES (Ohio): To provide for the protection of public property in the Capital and other public buildings in Washington.

By Mr. KNOTT: To authorize the issue of the standard silver dollar, and to provide for the issue of certificates for bullion deposits.

By Mr. BOONE: Joint resolution providing for a board of engineers to report upon the best mode of constructing bridges across the Tennessee River, so as to prevent obstruction to navigation.

By Mr. WHITTHORNE: To amend the charter of the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company so as to reduce the number of common stock, and to enable the Postmaster-General to further protect the interests of the Postoffice Department. Also, to bill to organize the life-saving and coast-guard service.

By Mr. WHITTHORNE asked that the latter bill be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. COX (N. Y.) moved to amend by substituting the Committee on Commerce. It was agreed that the bill should be referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. PLUM introduced a bill supplementing the act of 1873 relating to the Union Pacific Railroad. Referred.

Mr. MERRIMON introduced a resolution directing the Committee on the District of Columbia to inquire into the necessity for an appropriation for additional school buildings in the District. Adopted.

Mr. VOORHIES called up his resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to ascertain whether certain railroads, incorporated July 25, 30, and 27, 1866, have issued bonds in excess of the conditional land grants of Indian lands, and if so, in whose hands the bonds are and for what purpose.

An amendment, offered by Mr. DOBNEY, directing a further inquiry as to the money expended by the Indian tribes in opposing the organization of civil government over the Indian Territory, and whether such money had been taken from their school fund, and what legislation is necessary to protect such fund, and to ascertain whether a civil form of government cannot be established over the Indian Territory, and whether the lands now held in common by the Indians can be divided in severalty among the Indians, without conferring the conditional grants of land to certain railroad corporations, was agreed to by Mr. VOORHIES, the reference changed to the Committee on Territories, and the resolution, after some debate, adopted.

Mr. WINDOM, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported back the bill making an appropriation for continuing the work on the Capitol grounds, and asked its reference to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds. So ordered.

Mr. BLAINE offered a resolution requesting the President, if not incompatible with the public interest, to furnish the Senate with copies of the correspondence with the government of Great Britain in relation to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At the expiration of the morning hour the Senate, under a previous resolution, proceeded to the consideration of the bill to amend the act of 1870, relating to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At 2:30 the clock of the House appeared and notified the Senate that the House had concurred in the Senate amendments to the silver bill.

The following bills were disposed of under this order:

House bill for the relief of William H. Needham, late second lieutenant, company D, Twenty-second Iowa Volunteers. Passed.

House bill for the relief of Charles W. Wood, late of company E, first battalion, Thirtieth United States Infantry. Passed.

House bill for the relief of John Polford, with an amendment. Passed.

Senate bill for the relief of the officers and privates of the Fourth Arkansas Cavalry. Passed.

Senate bill to amend section 1250, Revised Statutes, relating to the selection of the third fisheries commissioner. Laid over.

At 2:30 the clock of the House appeared and notified the Senate that the House had concurred in the Senate amendments to the silver bill.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the calendar and the following bills were passed:

House joint resolution to authorize the Secretary of War to issue certain arms to the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston, S. C., with an amendment making the State responsible for the safe keeping of the arms. Passed.

Senate bill for the relief of John Polford, with an amendment. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Malvina A. Malby. Passed.

Senate bill to further define and enlarge the powers and duties of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia in relation to domestic animals running at large. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Nancy E. McCallum. Passed.

A question incidentally came up whether, under the ANTI-SLAVERY rule, objection to a bill was limited to the time when the bill had been read and laid on the table, or whether objection was in order at any stage of the proceedings.

On the other side it was held that objection at any time would do, in the power of the man to defeat the bill at any time; and on the other, that freedom to object if debated led to doubts as to the propriety of the passage of a bill, or of its removal existing doubts, secured the consideration and passage of bills that would be done if objections could only be interposed at the threshold.

To test the question and establish a precedent, a *pro forma* point of order was made, and the question submitted to the Senate, and it was decided—yeas 27, nays 23—that an objection was in order at any stage of proceedings on the bill under this rule.

The *pro forma* objection was withdrawn, and the Senate passed.

Senate bill to amend the 104th article of the Constitution in relation to the execution of court-martial sentences. Passed.

Senate bill granting a pension to Mrs. Esther A. George. Passed.

At four p. m., on motion of Mr. ANTHONY, the Senate adjourned.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

DOINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES.

Information Gathered at the Capitol, in the Departments, and About Town by the Reporters of the National Republican.

An Extensive Railroad Scheme.

The bill introduced in the House by Representative Shelley, of Alabama, granting a charter to the New York and Manhattan line Railroad, Telegraph and Immigration Company, provides for the organization of a corporation authorized and empowered to lay out, locate, and construct a continuous line of railroad and telegraph, with appurtenances, from New York to Fort McIntosh, on the Rio Grande, via Washington City, Richmond, Va.; Atlanta, Ga.; Selma, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; Houston, Texas, and Fort McIntosh, with the privilege of extending and maintaining a branch line from about Charleston, S. C., to Norfolk, Va., subject to all the privileges and immunities of said grand trunk line. The capital stock shall be \$200,000,000, of which sum \$10,000,000 shall be subscribed in shares of \$1,000 each before organization.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to appoint five commissioners to act in connection with those organizing the corporation.

Army Orders.

Second Lieutenant E. M. Cobb, Second Artillery, is relieved from duty at the artillery school, Fort Monroe, and ordered to join his regiment May 1.

Lieutenant A. McGovern, Nineteenth Infantry, granted leave of absence for eight months on account of disability.

Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, has his orders of June 11, 1877, detailing him as professor of military science and tactics at Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, revoked.

Lieutenant L. A. Matile, Eleventh Infantry, ordered to accompany a detachment of recruits from New York city to join the Third Infantry.

Colonel T. C. Critchfield, Second Cavalry, is detailed to the Second Cavalry, and Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, is detailed to the Second Cavalry, and Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, is detailed to the Second Cavalry.

A Legal-Tender Bill.

In the House Mr. Shelley has introduced a bill authorizing the issue of United States notes and providing for the redemption of certain United States bonds, and for other purposes.

The Secretary of the Treasury is directed to issue \$500,000,000 legal-tender notes—not less than fifty nor more than one hundred millions to be issued in any one year. The Secretary shall have authority to issue and redeem with this coin currency outstanding United States bonds. When the premium on coin exceeds the market value of Government bonds in Treasury notes, then the Secretary shall be authorized to purchase the bonds with said notes and cancel the same, provided that not less than \$50,000,000 of said bonds shall be redeemed in any one year. The Secretary of the Treasury shall use the gold now on hand in the Treasury for the purpose of redeeming outstanding Government bonds; provided that in redeeming bonds under this act preference shall be given to bonds bearing the largest amount of interest and having the shortest time to run.

The bill introduced in the House by Representative Shelley, of Alabama, granting a charter to the New York and Manhattan line Railroad, Telegraph and Immigration Company, provides for the organization of a corporation authorized and empowered to lay out, locate, and construct a continuous line of railroad and telegraph, with appurtenances, from New York to Fort McIntosh, on the Rio Grande, via Washington City, Richmond, Va.; Atlanta, Ga.; Selma, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; Houston, Texas, and Fort McIntosh, with the privilege of extending and maintaining a branch line from about Charleston, S. C., to Norfolk, Va., subject to all the privileges and immunities of said grand trunk line. The capital stock shall be \$200,000,000, of which sum \$10,000,000 shall be subscribed in shares of \$1,000 each before organization.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to appoint five commissioners to act in connection with those organizing the corporation.

Army Orders.

Second Lieutenant E. M. Cobb, Second Artillery, is relieved from duty at the artillery school, Fort Monroe, and ordered to join his regiment May 1.

Lieutenant A. McGovern, Nineteenth Infantry, granted leave of absence for eight months on account of disability.

Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, has his orders of June 11, 1877, detailing him as professor of military science and tactics at Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, revoked.

Lieutenant L. A. Matile, Eleventh Infantry, ordered to accompany a detachment of recruits from New York city to join the Third Infantry.

Colonel T. C. Critchfield, Second Cavalry, is detailed to the Second Cavalry, and Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, is detailed to the Second Cavalry, and Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, is detailed to the Second Cavalry.

A Legal-Tender Bill.

In the House Mr. Shelley has introduced a bill authorizing the issue of United States notes and providing for the redemption of certain United States bonds, and for other purposes.

The Secretary of the Treasury is directed to issue \$500,000,000 legal-tender notes—not less than fifty nor more than one hundred millions to be issued in any one year. The Secretary shall have authority to issue and redeem with this coin currency outstanding United States bonds. When the premium on coin exceeds the market value of Government bonds in Treasury notes, then the Secretary shall be authorized to purchase the bonds with said notes and cancel the same, provided that not less than \$50,000,000 of said bonds shall be redeemed in any one year. The Secretary of the Treasury shall use the gold now on hand in the Treasury for the purpose of redeeming outstanding Government bonds; provided that in redeeming bonds under this act preference shall be given to bonds bearing the largest amount of interest and having the shortest time to run.

The bill introduced in the House by Representative Shelley, of Alabama, granting a charter to the New York and Manhattan line Railroad, Telegraph and Immigration Company, provides for the organization of a corporation authorized and empowered to lay out, locate, and construct a continuous line of railroad and telegraph, with appurtenances, from New York to Fort McIntosh, on the Rio Grande, via Washington City, Richmond, Va.; Atlanta, Ga.; Selma, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; Houston, Texas, and Fort McIntosh, with the privilege of extending and maintaining a branch line from about Charleston, S. C., to Norfolk, Va., subject to all the privileges and immunities of said grand trunk line. The capital stock shall be \$200,000,000, of which sum \$10,000,000 shall be subscribed in shares of \$1,000 each before organization.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to appoint five commissioners to act in connection with those organizing the corporation.

Army Orders.

Second Lieutenant E. M. Cobb, Second Artillery, is relieved from duty at the artillery school, Fort Monroe, and ordered to join his regiment May 1.

Lieutenant A. McGovern, Nineteenth Infantry, granted leave of absence for eight months on account of disability.

Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, has his orders of June 11, 1877, detailing him as professor of military science and tactics at Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, revoked.

Lieutenant L. A. Matile, Eleventh Infantry, ordered to accompany a detachment of recruits from New York city to join the Third Infantry.

Colonel T. C. Critchfield, Second Cavalry, is detailed to the Second Cavalry, and Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, is detailed to the Second Cavalry, and Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, is detailed to the Second Cavalry.

A Legal-Tender Bill.

In the House Mr. Shelley has introduced a bill authorizing the issue of United States notes and providing for the redemption of certain United States bonds, and for other purposes.

The Secretary of the Treasury is directed to issue \$500,000,000 legal-tender notes—not less than fifty nor more than one hundred millions to be issued in any one year. The Secretary shall have authority to issue and redeem with this coin currency outstanding United States bonds. When the premium on coin exceeds the market value of Government bonds in Treasury notes, then the Secretary shall be authorized to purchase the bonds with said notes and cancel the same, provided that not less than \$50,000,000 of said bonds shall be redeemed in any one year. The Secretary of the Treasury shall use the gold now on hand in the Treasury for the purpose of redeeming outstanding Government bonds; provided that in redeeming bonds under this act preference shall be given to bonds bearing the largest amount of interest and having the shortest time to run.

The bill introduced in the House by Representative Shelley, of Alabama, granting a charter to the New York and Manhattan line Railroad, Telegraph and Immigration Company, provides for the organization of a corporation authorized and empowered to lay out, locate, and construct a continuous line of railroad and telegraph, with appurtenances, from New York to Fort McIntosh, on the Rio Grande, via Washington City, Richmond, Va.; Atlanta, Ga.; Selma, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; Houston, Texas, and Fort McIntosh, with the privilege of extending and maintaining a branch line from about Charleston, S. C., to Norfolk, Va., subject to all the privileges and immunities of said grand trunk line. The capital stock shall be \$200,000,000, of which sum \$10,000,000 shall be subscribed in shares of \$1,000 each before organization.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to appoint five commissioners to act in connection with those organizing the corporation.

Army Orders.

Second Lieutenant E. M. Cobb, Second Artillery, is relieved from duty at the artillery school, Fort Monroe, and ordered to join his regiment May 1.

Lieutenant A. McGovern, Nineteenth Infantry, granted leave of absence for eight months on account of disability.

Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, has his orders of June 11, 1877, detailing him as professor of military science and tactics at Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, revoked.

Lieutenant L. A. Matile, Eleventh Infantry, ordered to accompany a detachment of recruits from New York city to join the Third Infantry.

Colonel T. C. Critchfield, Second Cavalry, is detailed to the Second Cavalry, and Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, is detailed to the Second Cavalry, and Lieutenant S. R. Jones, Fourth Artillery, is detailed to the Second Cavalry.

A Legal-Tender Bill.

In the House Mr. Shelley has introduced a bill authorizing the issue of United States notes and providing for the redemption of certain United States bonds, and for other purposes.

The Secretary of the Treasury is directed to issue \$500,000,000 legal-tender notes—not less than fifty nor more than one hundred millions to be issued in any one year. The Secretary shall have authority to issue and redeem with this coin currency outstanding United States bonds. When the premium on coin exceeds the market value of Government bonds in Treasury notes, then the Secretary shall be authorized to purchase the bonds with said notes and cancel the same, provided that not less than \$50,000,000 of said bonds shall be redeemed in any one year. The Secretary of the Treasury shall use the gold now on hand in the Treasury for the purpose of redeeming outstanding Government bonds; provided that in redeeming bonds under this act preference shall be given to bonds bearing the largest amount of interest and having the shortest time to run.

The bill introduced in the House by Representative Shelley, of Alabama, granting a charter to the New York and Manhattan line Railroad, Telegraph and Immigration Company, provides for the organization of a corporation authorized and empowered to lay out, locate, and construct a continuous line of railroad and telegraph, with appurtenances, from New York to Fort McIntosh, on the Rio Grande, via Washington City, Richmond, Va.; Atlanta, Ga.; Selma, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; Houston, Texas, and Fort McIntosh, with the privilege of extending and maintaining a branch line from about Charleston, S. C., to Norfolk, Va., subject to all the privileges and immunities of said grand trunk line. The capital stock shall be \$200,000,000, of which sum \$10,000,000 shall be subscribed in shares of \$1,000 each before organization.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.